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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,384	10/27/2003	Kazuya Riku	21334-1260	5769

7590 03/11/2004

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, SON V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/694,384

Applicant(s)

RIKU, KAZUYA

Examiner

Son V Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-9 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 10-21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/27/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 3 and 10-21 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claims 3 and 14, line 1, before "further", --wherein the spring member-- should be added.

In claims 10, 11 and 21, there is no antecedent basis for "the electric cable".

In claim 12, line 7, after "member of", "an" should be changed to --the--.

Allowable Subject Matter

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4. Claims 1-2, 4-9 are allowed over the prior art.
5. Claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection as described above, set forth in this Office action.
6. Claims 3, 10-11, 14 and 21 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection as described above, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
7. Claims 13 and 15-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the combination, cooperation and interaction that applicant claimed an electrical connector comprising:
 - a) a terminal block having an electric wire receiving passageway that communicates with a spring receiving passageway for receiving an electric wire and a contact, respectively, a housing having a contact, the contact having a piercing member extends into the electric wire receiving passageway, the spring member arranged in the spring receiving passageway of the terminal block and having a contact retaining portion that urges the electric wire toward the piercing member, as recited with other elements in the claim 1.

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b) a terminal block having an electric wire receiving passageway that communicates with a spring receiving passageway for receiving an electric wire and a contact, respectively, the terminal block moves between a pre-latched position and a locked position, a housing having a contact, the contact having a piercing member extends into the electric wire receiving passageway, the spring member arranged in the spring receiving passageway of the terminal block and having a contact retaining portion that urges the electric wire toward the piercing member, as recited with other elements in the claim 12.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Harting et al. (US 6,416,350) and Ishizaki et al. (US 5,417,583), show the alternative designs of the terminal blocks including contact with piercing members.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Son V Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2097. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SON V. NGUYEN
PATENT EXAMINER

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March 5, 2004